

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 14, 2010

The parable of the prodigal son. Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32



It's Not All About Me

I know that I've said it (or thought it) more than once in my lifetime. "What did they do to deserve that?" Or "Why is she getting all the praise when I'm the one who did all the work?"

As hurt and indignant as we feel in those moments like the older brother in today's gospel, we are missing the point. It's not about who is more or less deserving in a given situation. It's all about our ability to love unconditionally and to believe in the basic dignity and equality of the people.

Every day, in homes and workplaces, in schools and sports venues, in boardrooms and backrooms, in community organizations and faith communities, we are challenged to let go of our sense of self-importance in order to truly appreciate and value the people around us. The prodigal son is welcomed back, not because of what he has done or not done, but because of who he is, a valued member of the family. No wonder his father throws a big celebration in his honor.

Whenever I hear this parable, I wince at the thought of how often I have felt envious because someone else received the attention I thought I deserved. Then I think about the older brother and hope that, realizing he is no less loved, he joins in the festivities.

Susan Eaton - *Living with Christ*

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday: Isaiah 65: 17-21; John 4: 43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47: 1-9, 12; John 5: 1-16
Wednesday: Isaiah 49: 8-15; John 5: 17-30
Thursday: Exodus 32: 7-14; John 5: 31-47
Friday: 2 Samuel 7: 4-5, 12-14; 16;
Romans 4: 13, 16-18, 22
Matthew 1: 16, 18-21, 24
Saturday: Jeremiah 11: 18-20; John 7: 40-53
Sunday: Isaiah 43: 16-21; Philippians 3: 18-14;
John 8: 1-11

Catholic Relief Services Collection

This weekend, March 13-14, our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support goes to Catholic organizations working to bring relief and hope to those in need worldwide. Thank you for your generous support.

Pot of Gold Winners

(\$25) Jack McGuane, Maurine Mescan,
Jeanne Reinhard, Maureen Ring,
Nancy Andrade, Nancy Hlynosky



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, March 14 - 4th Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM For the People of the Parish
11:00 AM Joseph & Florence Mohar Family

Monday, March 15 - Lenten Weekday

5:15 PM Antonio Macios

Tuesday, March 16 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM Vito Donofrio

Wednesday, March 17 - St. Patrick

5:15 PM Joan Shaltens

Thursday, March 18 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM Marcia Parks

Friday, March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

5:15 PM Special Intention

7:00 PM Sanctity of Family Mass

Saturday, March 20 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM Ralph & Susan Hesland

5:15 PM J.J. & Mary Anne Kelley

Sunday, March 21 - 5th Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM William Male

11:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Coffee & Donuts

Join us for coffee, donuts and conversation after the 9AM and 11AM Sunday Masses.

What's Happening this Week in the Parish

- Sunday, March 14: Confirmation Class Meeting
7 PM - Hall
- Monday, March 15: Family PSR
7 PM - Hall
St. Vincent de Paul Society Mtg.
7:30 PM
- Tuesday, March 16: Parish Council Meeting
7 PM - Hall
- Wednesday, March 17: RCIA
7 PM - Rectory
- Thursday, March 18: Scripture Treats 10:45 AM
Bible Study Group
7 PM - Hall
- Friday, March 19: 5:15 PM Mass
Stations of the Cross
6 PM
Mass for the Sanctity of Family Life
7 PM
Social in Hall to follow

Lenten Retreat Announcement

Our next session of the Lenten Retreat will be held at St. James Church at 7:00 PM on March 17th. Have you ever taken the time to really listen to the Eucharistic Prayer during Mass, or even reflected on the richness of the words making up these prayers? As I stand at the altar just behind the priest every week and look at the bread and wine as he prays to the Father one of these beautiful prayers, I am spiritually moved in ways beyond explanation. Reflect on the opening lines of Eucharistic Prayer IV: 'Father, we acknowledge your greatness: all your actions show your wisdom and love. You formed man in your own likeness and set him over the whole world to serve you, his creator, and to rule over all creatures. Even when he disobeyed you and lost your friendship you did not abandon him to the power of death, but helped all men to seek and find you. Again and again you offered a covenant to man, and through the prophets taught him to hope for salvation. Father you so loved the world that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior.' During the first two weeks of our Lenten retreat we met the younger and elder 'prodigal sons,' reflected on the times we have been one or both of these sons in our own lives and last week we met the father in the story of the prodigal son. We will explore more in depth who is this Father who loves us enough to "send his only Son to be our Savior" and how we can in our humanness become, at least, a redeemed younger or elder son. This will also be a time for personal reflection in preparation for our Penance Service on March 24th at St. Clement. We will be accepting donations of toiletries to the Lakewood Christian Service Center. God Bless.

Deacon Danny Bryan

Lenten Retreat - Communal Penance Service

St. Clement Church - March 24th
7:00 PM

Holy Week Schedule - 2010

Sacrament of Penance

- Saturday, March 27 3:30 - 4:30 PM
Monday, March 29 12 Noon - 1:00 PM
6:00 - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 31 7:00 PM - Tenebrae Service

Liturgical Events

- Holy Thursday, April 1 7:00 PM - Evening Mass
of the Lord's Supper
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- Good Friday, April 2 8:00 AM - Morning Prayer
12:00 Noon - Stations of the Cross
3:00 PM - Veneration Service
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- Holy Saturday, April 3 8:00 AM - Morning Prayer
12:00 Noon - Blessing of
Easter Food
9:00 PM - Easter Vigil
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- Easter Sunday, April 4 Masses: 9:00 AM
11:00 AM

Finance Corner:

Collection for weekend of March 7 - \$ 6,714.81
Envelopes used - 227

St. Augustine Hunger Center - \$ 618.91

Thank you for your continued support and generosity for the parish.

LCA Social Justice Scholarship Program

Emily Rouse, an 8th grader at LCA, is collecting household supplies for the Ronald McDonald House as a part of the Social Justice Scholarship Program for the 8th grade. Some of the items include dryer sheets, facial tissue, liquid hand soap, hand sanitizer (Purell), disinfecting wipes and trash bags (1-7 gallon size). Your donations can be left in the marked boxes in the gathering area. Thank you for your support with this project.

Heartbeats Closing

Heartbeats, a ministry of the Sisters of Humility of Mary, has been dedicated to networking and marketing the creative endeavors of women, minorities and developing artists using the principles of fair-trade through online, catalog and onsite sales of greeting cards, prints, religious items and crafts. After 20 years, the ministry will be closing at the end of March. Final sales are in process through March 31st both online www.heartbeatscatalog.org and at 20015 Detroit Rd., Rocky River (440-356-8601). Store hours are 9:30 AM - 4 pm weekdays.